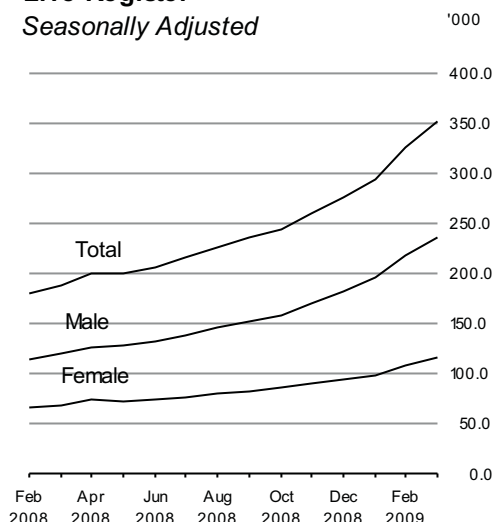




Live Register February 2009

Live Register Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
February 2008	189,485	187,800
January 2009	327,861	326,100
February 2009	354,437	352,800
Change in month	+ 26,576	+ 26,700
Change in year	+164,952	+165,000

Standardised unemployment rate rises to 10.4% in February

The seasonally adjusted Live Register total increased from 326,100 in January to 352,800 in February, an increase of 26,700. *See table 2a and graph opposite.*

In the year to February 2009, there was an unadjusted increase of 164,952 (+87.1%). This compares with an unadjusted increase of 146,412 (+80.7%) in the year to January 2009.

Other features include:

- ◆ The monthly increase in the seasonally adjusted series consisted of an increase of 18,200 males and an increase of 8,500 females. *See table 2a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in February was 10.4%. This compares with 7.7% in the fourth quarter of 2008, the latest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate from the Quarterly National Household Survey. *See table 3 and background notes.*
- ◆ In the month, the estimated number of casual and part-time workers on the Live Register was 27,777 males and 25,977 females. *See background notes.*

The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Benefit or Allowance. Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey and the latest seasonally adjusted figure, for September to November 2008, is 170,700 persons unemployed.

Additional Live Register tables for February 2009 will be available on Friday 6th March 2009.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	February 2008	January 2009	February 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	48,263	106,151	116,474	+	10,323	+	68,211
JA Applications	71,441	111,383	118,994	+	7,611	+	47,553
Other Registrants	2,816	3,771	3,841	+	70	+	1,025
Total	122,520	221,305	239,309	+	18,004	+	116,789
Females							
JB Claims	34,566	58,692	64,216	+	5,524	+	29,650
JA Applications	25,762	39,813	42,711	+	2,898	+	16,949
Other Registrants	6,637	8,051	8,201	+	150	+	1,564
Total	66,965	106,556	115,128	+	8,572	+	48,163
All Persons							
JB Claims	82,829	164,843	180,690	+	15,847	+	97,861
JA Applications	97,203	151,196	161,705	+	10,509	+	64,502
Other Registrants	9,453	11,822	12,042	+	220	+	2,589
Total	189,485	327,861	354,437	+	26,576	+	164,952

Table 1b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register

Category	February 2008	January 2009	February 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	8,673	17,835	18,875	+	1,040	+	10,202
JA Applications	16,831	28,599	30,948	+	2,349	+	14,117
Other Registrants	44	102	107	+	5	+	63
Total	25,548	46,536	49,930	+	3,394	+	24,382
Females							
JB Claims	4,289	8,225	9,033	+	808	+	4,744
JA Applications	9,575	15,710	16,891	+	1,181	+	7,316
Other Registrants	79	116	133	+	17	+	54
Total	13,943	24,051	26,057	+	2,006	+	12,114
All Persons							
JB Claims	12,962	26,060	27,908	+	1,848	+	14,946
JA Applications	26,406	44,309	47,839	+	3,530	+	21,433
Other Registrants	123	218	240	+	22	+	117
Total	39,491	70,587	75,987	+	5,400	+	36,496

Table 1c Persons 25 years of age and over on the Live Register

Category	February 2008	January 2009	February 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	39,590	88,316	97,599	+	9,283	+	58,009
JA Applications	54,610	82,784	88,046	+	5,262	+	33,436
Other Registrants	2,772	3,669	3,734	+	65	+	962
Total	96,972	174,769	189,379	+	14,610	+	92,407
Females							
JB Claims	30,277	50,467	55,183	+	4,716	+	24,906
JA Applications	16,187	24,103	25,820	+	1,717	+	9,633
Other Registrants	6,558	7,935	8,068	+	133	+	1,510
Total	53,022	82,505	89,071	+	6,566	+	36,049
All Persons							
JB Claims	69,867	138,783	152,782	+	13,999	+	82,915
JA Applications	70,797	106,887	113,866	+	6,979	+	43,069
Other Registrants	9,330	11,604	11,802	+	198	+	2,472
Total	149,994	257,274	278,450	+	21,176	+	128,456

Table 2a Total persons on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	February	95,600	63,800	159,400	92,900	64,800	157,700
	March	94,800	61,100	155,900	93,700	63,700	157,400
	April	94,100	60,200	154,300	94,700	63,900	158,600
	May	93,800	60,200	154,000	95,400	63,900	159,300
	June	98,000	68,400	166,400	97,000	64,600	161,500
	July	100,600	74,000	174,600	98,000	64,000	162,000
	August	101,600	72,600	174,200	98,900	63,100	162,100
	September	98,000	62,600	160,700	100,500	64,200	164,700
	October	97,100	60,300	157,400	101,700	63,900	165,600
	November	101,400	60,300	161,700	105,200	64,700	169,900
	December	106,700	63,700	170,400	106,800	65,200	172,100
2008	January	116,200	65,300	181,400	113,200	66,400	179,600
	February	122,500	67,000	189,500	119,800	68,000	187,800
	March	127,000	71,000	198,000	125,900	73,600	199,500
	April	127,600	68,000	195,600	128,100	71,700	199,800
	May	130,700	71,100	201,800	132,200	74,800	207,000
	June	139,900	80,900	220,800	138,900	76,900	215,800
	July	148,000	90,300	238,200	145,300	80,300	225,600
	August	155,300	92,100	247,400	152,600	82,600	235,200
	September	156,100	84,200	240,200	158,500	85,800	244,400
	October	165,300	86,600	252,000	170,000	90,200	260,300
	November	179,200	89,400	268,600	183,000	93,700	276,700
	December	195,300	96,000	291,400	195,500	97,600	293,100
2009	January	221,300	106,600	327,900	218,400	107,700	326,100
	February	239,300	115,100	354,400	236,600	116,200	352,800

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).

Table 2b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	February	18,600	12,500	31,100	18,000	12,700	30,700
	March	18,600	12,200	30,800	18,300	12,700	31,000
	April	18,500	12,000	30,500	18,700	12,900	31,600
	May	18,400	12,200	30,600	18,800	12,900	31,700
	June	19,800	14,100	33,900	19,300	13,100	32,400
	July	20,600	14,800	35,300	19,600	12,800	32,400
	August	20,900	14,900	35,800	19,900	12,800	32,700
	September	19,900	13,400	33,200	20,200	13,000	33,200
	October	19,400	12,500	31,800	20,500	13,100	33,600
	November	20,200	12,100	32,200	21,300	13,200	34,500
	December	21,200	12,100	33,300	21,800	13,300	35,200
2008	January	23,800	13,200	36,900	23,300	13,500	36,800
	February	25,500	13,900	39,500	24,900	14,200	39,100
	March	26,600	14,200	40,800	26,300	14,700	41,000
	April	26,700	14,300	41,000	26,900	15,100	42,000
	May	27,400	15,300	42,700	27,900	16,000	43,900
	June	30,300	17,900	48,200	29,800	16,900	46,700
	July	32,400	19,900	52,300	31,400	17,900	49,400
	August	34,300	20,800	55,000	33,200	18,700	51,900
	September	34,000	19,700	53,700	34,300	19,300	53,600
	October	35,200	19,300	54,500	36,400	20,000	56,300
	November	37,900	20,100	57,900	39,000	21,200	60,200
	December	41,400	20,900	62,300	42,100	22,100	64,200
2009	January	46,500	24,100	70,600	46,100	24,400	70,400
	February	49,900	26,100	76,000	49,300	26,300	75,600

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).

Table 2c Persons 25 years of age and over on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	February	77,000	51,300	128,300	74,900	52,200	127,000
	March	76,200	48,900	125,100	75,400	51,000	126,300
	April	75,600	48,200	123,800	76,000	51,000	127,000
	May	75,500	48,000	123,400	76,600	51,000	127,600
	June	78,200	54,300	132,500	77,700	51,500	129,200
	July	80,100	59,200	139,300	78,400	51,200	129,600
	August	80,700	57,700	138,400	79,100	50,300	129,400
	September	78,200	49,200	127,400	80,300	51,200	131,500
	October	77,800	47,800	125,600	81,200	50,800	132,000
	November	81,300	48,200	129,500	83,900	51,500	135,400
	December	85,500	51,600	137,100	85,000	51,900	136,900
2008	January	92,400	52,100	144,500	90,000	52,900	142,900
	February	97,000	53,000	150,000	94,800	53,900	148,700
	March	100,400	56,700	157,200	99,600	58,900	158,500
	April	100,800	53,800	154,600	101,200	56,600	157,800
	May	103,200	55,800	159,000	104,300	58,800	163,200
	June	109,700	63,000	172,600	109,100	60,100	169,200
	July	115,500	70,400	185,900	113,900	62,400	176,200
	August	121,100	71,300	192,300	119,400	63,900	183,300
	September	122,100	64,500	186,600	124,200	66,500	190,700
	October	130,100	67,300	197,400	133,700	70,300	204,000
	November	141,300	69,300	210,700	144,000	72,600	216,600
	December	153,900	75,200	229,100	153,400	75,500	228,900
2009	January	174,800	82,500	257,300	172,300	83,300	255,700
	February	189,400	89,100	278,500	187,200	89,900	277,200

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates (SUR)¹

Month	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January ²	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.8	9.6
February	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.0	10.4
March	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	5.3	
April ²	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.4	
May	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.7	
June	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.5	6.1	
July ²	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	6.4	
August	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	6.9	
September	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.5	7.2	
October ²	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.5	7.7 ³	
November	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.6	8.1	
December	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	8.6	
Annual average	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	6.4	

¹ Table contains revised figures.

² Benchmark Labour Force Survey/Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) estimates.

³ The latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (adjusted for seasonality) is: September-November 2008, 7.7%.

Table 4 Summary of average net weekly changes on the Live Register classified by sex

		Number of weeks	Males		Females		Total	
			Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change
2007	February	4	95,639	- 46	63,760	+ 208	159,399	+ 162
	March	5	94,790	- 170	61,079	- 536	155,869	- 706
	April	4	94,122	- 167	60,197	- 221	154,319	- 388
	May	4	93,827	- 74	60,183	- 4	154,010	- 77
	June	5	97,962	+ 827	68,401	+ 1,644	166,363	+ 2,471
	July	4	100,643	+ 670	73,950	+ 1,387	174,593	+ 2,058
	August	5	101,592	+ 190	72,614	- 267	174,206	- 77
	September	4	98,015	- 894	62,637	- 2,494	160,652	- 3,389
	October	4	97,124	- 223	60,325	- 578	157,449	- 801
	November	5	101,418	+ 859	60,304	- 4	161,722	+ 855
	December	4	106,698	+ 1,320	63,678	+ 844	170,376	+ 2,164
2008	January	4	116,160	+ 2,366	65,289	+ 403	181,449	+ 2,768
	February	5	122,520	+ 1,272	66,965	+ 335	189,485	+ 1,607
	March	4	127,020	+ 1,125	70,972	+ 1,002	197,992	+ 2,127
	April	4	127,551	+ 133	68,047	- 731	195,598	- 599
	May	5	130,674	+ 625	71,082	+ 607	201,756	+ 1,232
	June	4	139,936	+ 2,316	80,875	+ 2,448	220,811	+ 4,764
	July	4	147,954	+ 2,005	90,286	+ 2,353	238,240	+ 4,357
	August	5	155,319	+ 1,473	92,065	+ 356	247,384	+ 1,829
	September	4	156,055	+ 184	84,162	- 1,976	240,217	- 1,792
	October	5	165,338	+ 1,857	86,613	+ 490	251,951	+ 2,347
	November	4	179,189	+ 3,463	89,397	+ 696	268,586	+ 4,159
	December	4	195,331	+ 4,036	96,032	+ 1,659	291,363	+ 5,694
2009	January	5	221,305	+ 5,195	106,556	+ 2,105	327,861	+ 7,300
	February	4	239,309	+ 4,501	115,128	+ 2,143	354,437	+ 6,644

¹ Average net weekly changes are calculated by dividing the total monthly change by the number of weeks in the reference month.

Background Notes

Source and scope of the Live Register The live register is compiled from returns made for each local office to the Central Statistics Office by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. It comprises persons under 65 years of age in the following classes:

- ◆ All Claimants for Jobseekers Benefit (JB) excluding systematic short-time workers;
- ◆ Applicants for Jobseekers Allowance (JA) excluding smallholders/farm assists and other self-employed persons
- ◆ Other registrants including applicants for credited Social Welfare contributions but excluding those directly involved in an industrial dispute.

Reference Period The reference periods for the Live register results are as follows:
February 2009 – 31st January 2009 to 27th February 2009
February 2008 – 26th January 2008 to the 29th February 2008.

Descriptive articles The compilation basis for the Live Register statistics from May 1992 onwards is described in the September 1992 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*. The March 1980 issue contained a description of the basis used up to April 1992 while a more comprehensive treatment of Live Register statistics appeared in the “Report of the Inter-Departmental Study Group on Unemployment Statistics” (Stationery Office Dublin, Prl.7925, April 1979). The results of a special study of the differences between the Labour Force Survey (LFS) Estimates of Unemployment and the Live Register are contained in the December 1996 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*.

Unemployment statistics The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Allowance or Jobseekers Benefit. **Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey** (formerly the Annual Labour Force Survey).

Standardised unemployment rates The Standardised Unemployment Rate (SUR) series in Table 3 is based on the estimated number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total economically active population (i.e. the Labour Force), using internationally comparable definitions of employment and unemployment, as recommended by the International Labour Office. Benchmark estimates of the SUR for January, April, July and October of each year are calculated using seasonally adjusted data from the Quarterly National Household Survey. The monthly trend in the seasonally adjusted Live Register is then used to estimate the monthly SUR between successive surveys.

This approach was temporarily suspended following the rapid decline in the Live Register after September 1996. A linear interpolation estimation approach was used between April 1996 and April 1997, as the Live Register series could not be used as an indicator of monthly trends in unemployment during that period. The traditional estimation approach has been used from April 1997 onwards.

QNHS The Quarterly National Household Survey, which began in September 1997, has now replaced the Labour Force Survey and provides quarterly estimates of the unemployment rate. The estimates (adjusted for seasonality) are:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	%	%	%	%
1998	8.7	8.0	7.2	6.5
1999	5.9	5.9	5.4	5.1
2000	4.8	4.4	4.0	3.9
2001	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.0
2002	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.6
2003	4.8	4.5	4.8	4.6
2004	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4
2005	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5
2006	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.3
2007	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.5
2008	4.8	5.4	6.4	7.7

Seasonal adjustment The seasonal adjustment of the Live Register is completed using the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of Census Method 2 (Additive Option). The seasonally adjusted series are updated twice yearly, in January and July; pending the next updating, seasonal adjustment for intervening months is carried out using projected seasonal factors. In Tables 2a , b and c, the seasonally adjusted totals are the sum of the relevant seasonally adjusted series for males and females, under and over 25 years.

Casual and part-time workers The casual and part-time workers' figure is based on an estimate supplied by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. People may apply for Jobseekers Benefit/Allowance if they only work for part of a week and be included on the Live Register.